THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) The Ninth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

(e) The Ministry is fully conscious of the needs of NH-52 and have sanetioned works amounting to nearby Rs. 17 crores. However, the Assam Govt. have not been able to complete the works despite the matter having been continuously pursued.

Cargo Handled by Major Ports

1500. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total cargo traffic handled by different major ports during the last three years;

(b) the port-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to increase the handling of cargo traffic during the coming years; and

(d) if so, the port-wise and year-wise target fixed till the end of 2000 A.D.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The cargo traffic handled by the Major Ports during the last three years are as under:—

(in Million Tonnes)

Port	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Calcutta	6.12	6.02	7.92
Haldia	15.39	17.10	20.19
Paradip	11.26	11.58	13.30
Visakhapatnam	32.82	34.50	36.02
Chennai	30.72	31.85	35.53
Tuticorin	9.29	9.18	9.97
Cochin	11.50	11.74	12.17
New Mangalore	8.88	12.45	15.28
Mormugao	18.10	17.31	21.18
J.L. Nehru	6.87	8.07	8.90
Mumbai	34.05	33.73	32.08
Kandla	30.34	33.73	38.90
TOTAL	215.34	227.26	251.44

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir During the IXth Five year Plan (1997—2002), it is proposed to enhance the cargo handling capacity of Major Ports by around 122 Million tonnes. The Port-wise and year-wise traffic projections for Major Ports for the current financial year 1998-99 as per the Table given below. However, no traffic targets have been fixed for the year 1999-2000.

(in Million Tonnes)

Port	1998-99
Calcutta	9.50
Haldia	20.50
Paradip	13.35
Visakhapatnam	36.00
Chennai	36.50
Tuticorin	10.20
Cochin	12.25
New Mangalore	15.50
Mormugao	20.20
J.L. Nehru	10.00
Mumbai	34.00
Kandla	40.00
TOTAL	258.00